



AN ANATOMY OF APOCALYPTIC CARE

ENG

ABOUT
THE DANCERS

FOFA Gallery

2023 Undergraduate
Student Exhibition

January 16th – February
17th, 2023

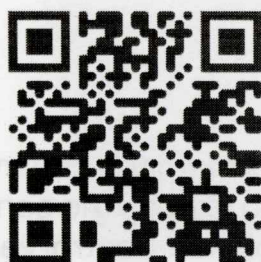
Finissage:

February 17th, 5–7pm

Tiohtià:ke / Montreal
1515 Ste-Catherine West,
H3G 2W1, EV 1-715
514 848-2424 #7962

www.concordia.ca/fofa
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Helen-Olivia (liv) is an interdisciplinary queer artist with a special love for movement. They are based in Tiohtià:ke (Montreal), the unceded territory of the Kanien'kéha:ka Nation. Their movement practice is heavily influenced by drag and queer art-forms that emerge from community rituals. They trained in modern dance, composition, and improvisation at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre and now study Contemporary Dance at Concordia University. liv is interested in forms of interdependent care and radical softness.

Kaya Sinclair-Thomas, is a queer multidisciplinary artist currently based Tio'tia:ke (Montreal). Working as a choreographer and dancer, they have trained in a handful of dance styles including Graham, Ballet, Jazz, Tap and Improvisation. Their most recent studies have been at Concordia University in the Contemporary Dance program. In their choreography practice they often work with theatrical expression and absurdity, with strong emotional motifs. As a dancer, they embody movement with a powerful physicality.

Rafa is a queer contemporary dance performer and choreographer from Tio'tia:ke (Montreal). They studied biology at the University of Montréal/Cape Breton University, and finally at Concordia in the contemporary dance program. Rafa taught and performed circus extensively before diving head-first into dance. They often work with site-specific choreographies and use costume design as a starting point. They are part of the duo performance @g_lamour_magiqueas as a co-choreographer and costume designers.

Pamela Feghali is a choreographer, theatre director, and performer based in Tiohtià:ke/Montreal. In 2020, Feghali's passion for movement and creation led her to join the Contemporary Dance program at Concordia University. She is curious to explore idiosyncrasies shaping individual bodies and the intergenerational memories and traumas that are repressed or manifested, whether consciously or unconsciously.

Based in Tiohtià:ke/Montreal, **Irene Ruiz Muniente** is a Spanish dancer and choreographer who is trained in Contemporary dance, Spanish dance and Flamenco. After graduating from the Dance Conservatory A. Ruiz Soler of Seville, she joined the Contemporary Dance program at Concordia University. Anchored in exploration, her work aims to investigate interdisciplinary languages using contemporary dance vocabularies.



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DANCE PERFORMANCES

presented February 17th at 5:30pm

Title: *them*

Featuring: Helen-Olivia (liv) Brake, Kaya Sinclair-Thomas, Rafaëla-Salomé (Rafa) Tremblay-van Zuiden.

How can the multiplicity of queer joy come together? *them* explores what we leave behind to arrive and focuses on the act of "getting ready" as a collective care practice. In this work, we perform getting ready by trying on each other's ways of sensing while working with clothes as partners and frames. We center this practice in its queerness as an expression of joy, resistance, knowledge, and fantasy. Carving a pathway through the gallery we become a living sculpture, perpetually shedding and redressing in layers of vibrantly coloured clothes. We come into proximity with the artworks— facilitating an encounter and exchange— that brings aliveness to the space. We stay in transition— unbuttoning, re-zipping, tying—and in doing so, help each other step into different genders and ways of being. We embrace the absurdity. We invite the audience into the performance by encouraging their interaction with the clothing pieces we leave behind to receive and share tactile information and histories. We hope to create space for them to explore tenderness and co-sensing with us as they share in the space's care network. This work celebrates the multiplicity of queer joy and is a true love letter to the labour of queer community care.

Title: *Red Lips*

Featuring: Pamela Feghali and Irene Ruiz

Red Lips is inspired by Belén Catalán's photograph series *Te Odiamos Patriarcado*. Set in the Sainte-Catherine Vitrine and the York vitrines, this performance seeks to expose the conflict and duality that reside within our female bodies i.e tenderness versus violence, control versus vulnerability, private versus public appearances, etc. We understand that our bodies carry unique histories, yet we wish to find unity in our differences, a powerful thread recognized in Catalán's work. For this reason, we mirror and contrast each other's movements as well as cycle through various changes in body and emotional states. At any moment, we may reverse roles. The decisions made during this performance are live and in continuous relationship with the environment. This allows us to be present with our audience, as we want them to feel like their experience is affected by their level of engagement. The theme of duality is emphasized in the space since the vitrine acts as a glass barrier that separates the outside world from the inside one—yet, both peer into the other. We want audiences to stop and look inside the vitrine, to engage with us and the artwork, and to notice that their gaze, in part, shapes women and their bodies.